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NOTE VERBALE DATED 8 FEBRUARY 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations presents its compliments to His Excellency, the President of the Security Council and has the honour to transmit a letter addressed to His Excellency from Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, President of the Arab Maghreb Union.

This Mission would be grateful if His Excellency, the President of the Security Council, would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

Annex

Letter dated 7 February 1991 from His Excellency Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, President of the Arab Maghreb Union, addressed to the President of the Security Council

According to Article 35 of the Charter of the United Nations, any Member of the United Nations may bring any dispute, or any situation which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, to the attention of the Security Council or of the General Assembly. Accordingly, and in affirmation of our respect, as President of the Arab Maghreb Union, for the Charter of the United Nations, and in the desire to uphold international peace and security, I say to you that advantage is being taken of the war in the Arabian Gulf to shower with conspicuous generosity military and financial support on the Israelis, whose presence is originally based on forcible occupation and is, at the very least, against General Assembly resolution 181 (II) of 1947 and all other resolutions from 1967 up to the present. According to this Charter, sanctions against the Israelis should be strengthened and increased, since Article 6 stipulates that "a Member of the United Nations which has persistently violated the Principles contained in the present Charter may be expelled from the Organization by the General Assembly upon the recommendation of the Security Council".

Article 4 permits membership in the United Nations only to peace-loving States which accept the obligations contained in this Charter, and Article 1, which explains the purposes of the United Nations, calls for the suppression of breaches of the peace. Article 1 also stresses the principle of the equality of all its Members, and of people without distinction as to race, language or religion.

I say to Your Excellency that, even more than the forcible occupation of Palestine and other Arab territories, the persistent violation of the principles of the Charter and the non-observance of the obligations it lays down, the showering of arms and money on the Israelis constitutes a breach of international peace, especially in the Middle East, and it stresses the distinction as to race, language and religion between Jewish Israelis and Muslim Arabs. This taking advantage of the Gulf war and this siding with the Israelis, who shamelessly and persistently violate United Nations resolutions to the detriment of the Arabs, amounts to an organized aggressive policy pursued by the Western countries not only against the Arabs, but against the peace efforts which have at least been declared. It also clearly torpedoes the alleged peace agreements which were signed between the Israelis and certain Arab parties. A dangerous imbalance has been created between the Israelis and the Arabs by this showering of military and financial aid on the Israelis. This is in itself a breach of the peace and it constitutes a situation which is likely to endanger international peace and security, which it is thus our duty, as President of the Arab Maghreb Union, to bring to the attention of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations, in accordance with Article 35 of the Charter.

(Signed) Colonel Muammar QADDAFI
President of the Arab Maghreb Union